



This technical update supersedes the technical information included in the approved Route Concept Report (RCR) for DN-197 (July 1999). Level of Service (LOS) calculations in the technical update are based on the 2000 Highway Capacity Manual (HCM) methodology, rather than the 1994 HCM methodology used in the existing RCRs. The 2000 HCM uses operating speed as a parameter for determining LOS on 2-lane highways in addition to percent time following, which was used in the previous methodology.

Route Description

DN-197-PM 0.0 / 7.1

Route 197 begins at Route 199 near the community of Hiouchi and extends northwesterly along the north bank of the Smith River until it terminates at Route 101 near DN-101-PM 36.3. The majority of the route is located within sparsely populated forested areas, and small portions pass through Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park. Route 197 is a 2-lane conventional highway traversing rolling terrain. It is approximately 6.7 miles in length and has a post mile description of 01-DN-197-PM 0.0/7.1. Route 197 is an important connecting link between Route 101 and Route 199 for through traffic. Route 197 is functionally classified as a Rural Minor Arterial, used for access, local traffic, and the movement of people and goods between Routes 101 and 199, both functionally classified as Rural Principal Arterials.

Facility Concept

Route 197 is a 2-lane conventional highway with a concept LOS of “E” as stated in the most recent Transportation Concept Report (TCR) for Route 197 (1999).

Functional Classification

Route 197 is classified as a Rural Minor Arterial.



Route 197, near Post Mile 4.0

Collision Rates

Actual Collision Rates:	Total:	0.76 (times statewide average for similar facilities)
	Fatal + Injury:	0.92 (times statewide average for similar facilities)

(Source: *Traffic Accident Surveillance and Analysis System – TASAS, 3-year period: July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2009*)

Route Characteristics and Performance

Facility Type	2-lane Conv.	Freeway and Expressway System	No
Conventional Lane Width	12 ft.	Eligible for Federal Funding	Yes
Paved Shoulder Width	0 ft. - 4 ft.	Eligible for Scenic Hwy Designation	Yes
Terrain	Rolling	Strategic Highway Network	No
Current (2008) AADT	1900	Interregional Road System	No
Current (2008) Average Peak Hour Volume	260	National Highway System	No
Current (2008) Total Truck AADT	165	Rail Service	No
Future (2028) AADT [1.40 Growth Factor (GF)]	2660	Intercity Bus Service	No
Future (2028) Peak Hour Volume (1.40 GF)	364	Marine Transportation	None
Future (2028) Total Truck AADT (1.40 GF)	231	Intersecting State Hwy Routes	199, 101
Surface Transportation Assistance Act (STAA) Trucks Allowed	No*	Park and Ride Lots	None
Extra Legal Loads Network (ELLN)	No	Interregional Transportation Strategic Plan	No
Public Airports Served	None		

*STAA trucks will be allowed on Route 197 after completion of planned improvements

Programmed Projects

(Source: *North Region Workplan Status District 1, June 10, 2010.*)

County	Route	Post Miles	Project Description	Estimated Completion Date
DN	197	3.7/4.0	Road widening (STAA truck access project)	12/01/2014
DN	197	4.5	Road widening (STAA truck access project)	12/01/2013